

Art Blumenthal
11 Stoneybrook Lane
Malvern, PA 19355

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Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530


Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am writing to express my opinion in the tentative antitrust case settlement between Microsoft and the U.S. Department of Justice. Although I believe the government has gone a little too far in bringing litigation against Microsoft, I am happy to see that some concessions will be made to keep Microsoft in check.

Microsoft should not be broken up by any means, but its lack of relations with software developers and computer makers does inhibit the industry from growing at a rate that it is capable of. That is why I believe in some of the pressure being put on Microsoft to keep them under check. This is what this settlement intends to and will do by making licensing rates equal and giving guarantees to software companies that Microsoft will not take any drastic action against them for designing products intended to compete with Microsoft products.

At any rate, I think the American Government must look out for the best interests of the public; at this time it is necessary to settle this thing quickly and efficiently and to allow Microsoft and other IT industry leaders to go back to focusing on business instead of political quarrels. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Art Blumenthal

cc: Senator Rick Santorum